

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 ACDA-19 ARA-16

/156 W

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R 020915Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7564

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USNATO 576

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0664

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, US, XH, XG, UR

SUBJECT: TRYBUNA LUDU COMMENTS ON IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONT-
ATION

REF: WARSAW 6188

1. SUMMARY: A COMMENTARY IN TRYBUNA LUDU BY IGNACY
KRASICKI ON JANUARY 31, ENTITLED "AT A NEW STAGE OF
CONFRONTATION", APPEARS TO CALL FOR GREATER UNITY
AND IDEOLOGICAL COORDINATION AMONG RULING COMMUNIST
PARTIES WHILE AT THE SAME TIME EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN
THE CORRECTNESS OF THE BASIC POLICIES OF PEACEFUL
COEXISTENCE. END SUMMARY.

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2. KRASICKI BEGINS BY POINTING OUT THAT PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE DOES NOT MEAN A WORLD WITHOUT CONFLICT BUT ONE IN WHICH DEVELOPING CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST AND CAPITALIST SYSTEMS WILL BE SETTLED BY PEACEFUL RATHER THAN MILITARY MEANS. HE QUOTES LENIN IN DEFENSE OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AGAINST "ADVENTURISTS" AND THEIR THESIS OF THE "PERMANENT REVOLUTION". HE ADDS THAT THE ACTION HAS NOW SHIFTED TO THE IDEOLOGICAL FRONT AND THAT, IN GENERAL, THE GROWING STRENGTH AND IMPORTANCE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TIPS THE SCALES IN THEIR FAVOR UNDER CONDITIONS OF PEACEFUL COMPETITION WITH THE CAPITALIST WORLD.

3. HOWEVER, KRASICKI ADDS, ONE PHENOMENON OF THIS NEW IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE TWO SYSTEMS IS THAT, WHENEVER THE TREND TOWARDS DETENTE BEGINS TO INDICATE NEW PERSPECTIVES OF DEVELOPMENT, "FORCES STEP FORWARD" WHICH ATTEMPT TO UPSET THE BALANCE WHICH IS TAKING SHAPE. THUS, JUST AS 1974 APPEARED TO AUGUR WELL AT THE OUTSET AS THE FINAL YEAR OF CSCE, THERE "BURST INTO FLAME" IN CERTAIN WESTERN CIRCLES AN "ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN" AROUND THE WRITINGS OF SOLZHENITSYN, "AND PARTICULARLY HIS LAST BOOK "GULAG ARCHIPELAGO". IN THIS VEIN KRASICKI ALSO NOTES THE "SNUFFING-OUT IN A SEA OF BLOOD" "THE EMBRYO OF LIBERATION IN CHILE" BY "REACTIONARY FORCES".

4. BUT KRASICKI DOES NOT DESPAIR, HE ARGUES THAT THE ANSWER TO SUCH PROBLEMS OF IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION, AT A TIME WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IS BECOMING "IRRESISTIBLY" MORE INFLUENCED BY THE TREND TOWARDS DETENTE, IS GREATER COHESION AND UNITY OF ACTION BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE SAYS THAT THE COORDINATION OF IDEOLOGICAL EFFORTS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE WAS A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AT THE "RECENT MEETING OF SECRETARIES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES OF BROTHERLY PARTIES IN MOSCOW".

5. THE SECOND PHENOMENON THAT KRASICKI WARNS ABOUT IS THE ATTEMPT BY CERTAIN "ANTI-COMMUNIST IDEOLOGUES" TO EXPLOIT

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FREER EAST-WEST ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE TO DEMORALIZE AND UNDERMINE SOCIALIST SOCIETIES. IN SUPPORT OF THIS HE QUOTES BRIEFLY FROM TWO AMERICAN BOOKS, "A FORWARD STRATEGY FOR AMERICA", AND BREZINSKI'S "ALTERNATIVE TO PARTITION", COMMENT: WE NOTE THAT THE LATTER WAS PUBLISHED IN 1965 AND ASSUME THAT THE OTHER ALSO CONSIDERABLY PRE-DATES DETENTE. END COMMENT.

6. KRASICKI CONCLUDES THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SHOULD CONDUCT THEIR "IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION WITH IMPERIALISM NOT ONLY WITH AN OFFENSIVE COUNTERATTACK AGAINST THIS DIVERSION," BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY BY LETTING SOCIALIST IDEOLOGY "SHINE THROUGH" AND LETTING THE "SUGGESTIVE OPERATION OF NUMEROUS FACTS" TESTIFY TO THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM OVER CAPITALISM.

7. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE A FURTHER REFINEMENT OF THE POLICY ON IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION WHICH WE NOTICED BEGINNING TO EVOLVE IN EARLY DECEMBER (REFTEL). KRASICKI DOES NOT INDICATE WHETHER THE "RECENT" DISCUSSION IN MOSCOW ON COORDINATING IDEOLOGICAL EFFORTS TOOK PLACE AT THE DECEMBER OR JANUARY MEETING. WE SUSPECT IT MAY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AT BOTH, WITH THE DECEMBER MEETING FOCUSING ON IDEOLOGICAL POLICY AND THE JANUARY ONE ON MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTING THE INTER-PARTY COORDINATION WHICH KRASICKI MENTIONS. IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM KRASICKI'S ARTICLE THAT, ALTHOUGH THE POLICY OF PEACEFUL EAST-WEST IDEOLOGICAL COMPETITION REMAINS IN EFFECT, THERE IS SOME CONCERN AMONG PARTY IDEOLOGISTS HERE--UNDOUBTEDLY FELT TO A GREATER DEGREE BY IDEOLOGISTS OF THE "BROTHERLY PARTIES" TO THE EAST AND WEST--OVER THE EROSION OF POLITICAL COMMITMENT THAT MAY ATTEND INCREASING EAST-WEST ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CONTACT. WE DOUBT THAT KRASICKI'S LAME AND WEAKLY STATED WARNING AGAINST SUCH CONTACT WILL HAVE MUCH EFFECT HERE.

DAVIES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY UNITY, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974WARSAW00664
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740259/aaaacdznz.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: WARSAW 6188
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <10 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRYBUNA LUDU COMMENTS ON IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONT- ATION
TAGS: PFOR, PL, US, XH, XG, UR, (KRASICKI, IGNACY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005